

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 373

DATE: March 12, 2003

Version: As introduced

Authors: Nornes and Others

Subject: Amended prescribing authority for optometrists

Analyst: Jeanne LeFevre, 651-296-5043

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

This bill extends the prescribing authority of optometrists to include legend drugs in addition to topical drugs. Optometrists would also be allowed to prescribe certain scheduled controlled substances in specified diagnostic and treatment situations relating to areas studied in schools of optometry.

Section

- 1 **Reporting requirement amended.** Reference to "topical legend drug" changed to "legend drug" in context of requirement that physicians report adverse reactions resulting from optometrists' provision of such drugs.
- 2 **Pharmacists' sales to optometrists.** Includes schedules of controlled substances in category of drugs optometrists permitted to acquire, administer or prescribe when expressly authorized by statute. Also eliminates restriction of optometrists' authority to topical legend drugs.
- 3 **Certification requirement amended.** Amends requirement that optometrist be board certified to use "topical legend drugs" to require certification for "legend drugs."
- 4 **Definition amended.** Amends the definition of a board certified optometrist by changing references to required study of use of "topical legend drugs" to "legend drugs."
- 5 **Prescribing authority.** Changes prescribing authority of optometrist from "topical legend drugs" to "legend drugs."
- 6 **Standard of care.** Amends optometrists' standard of care to reference "legend drugs" rather than "drugs."
- 7 **Complaint reports.** Amends requirement of complaint report from board of pharmacy to board of optometry to include complaints received regarding "legend drugs" rather than "topical legend drugs."
- 8 **Prescription requirements.** Adds doctor of optometry to list of persons authorized to

prescribe Schedule III or IV controlled substances.

- 9 Prescribing authority.** Adds licensed doctor of optometry to list of persons authorized to prescribe, administer or dispense schedules II through IV controlled substances.
- 10 Sale of controlled substances permitted.** Adds licensed doctor of optometry to the list of persons who may buy or possess schedule II through V controlled substances.